AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 12, Part 1, relative to selection of a museum director.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 12, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), notwithstanding any law to the contrary, an application for a position of museum director, materials submitted with an application, letters of recommendation or references concerning an applicant, and any other records or information relating to or arising out of the process of searching for and selecting an individual for the position of museum director shall be treated as confidential and shall not be open for public inspection, if the records could be used to identify a candidate for the position.

(b) After a search committee has selected candidates as finalists for a position of museum director, which shall occur no later than fifteen (15) calendar days before the final vote of the Douglas Henry state museum commission to appoint or elect a person to fill the position, a record relating exclusively to the candidates selected as finalists shall not be confidential and shall be open for public inspection, except for a record otherwise confidential under state or federal law.

(c) This section shall not apply to information relating to a candidate who did not expressly request that the candidate's information be kept confidential.

(d) Meetings or portions of meetings devoted to discussing information deemed confidential pursuant to this section are exempt from title 8, chapter 44, part 1.

(e) For the purposes of this section, "finalists" means those candidates selected by a search committee as the group to be recommended to the commission from which one (1) shall be appointed or elected museum director.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.